

Applicant hereby requests continued examination of the above-identified application in accordance with 37 CFR §1.114.

Listing of the Claims: (As allowed February 10, 2005)

1. (Previously Presented) An extruded polymeric article having a frosted and textured surface appearance comprised of a polymeric matrix and polymeric particles which are substantially spherical, highly crosslinked, have a mean particle size of between 35 to 70 micrometers and have a particle size distribution between 10-110 micrometers wherein the article has:

- a) a Haze number as determined by ASTM D103 of at least 90%,
- b) an opacity as determined by ASTM D20805-80 of at least 10%,
- c) a minimum surface roughness of 0.5 micrometers to 30 micrometers as measured using ASTM methods B46.11 B361.2 and Y14.36; and
- d) a Total White Light Transmission of greater than 77.1% for the clear form, as determined by a Hunterlab colorimeter_D25 model using ASTM E1331 and ASTM E1163,

wherein said determinations are made using an 0.125 inch thick extruded sheet comprised of the polymeric matrix and polymeric particles;

wherein said highly crosslinked polymeric particles are comprised of:

15 – 35% by weight styrene;

65 - 85% by weight alkyl methacrylate or alkyl acrylate or a combination thereof; and

0.1 - 2.5% by weight crosslinking agent.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The article of Claim 1 wherein the polymeric matrix is an acrylonitrile/butadiene/styrene terpolymer, acrylonitrile/styrene/acrylate copolymer, polycarbonate, polyester, polyethylene terephthalate glycol, methacrylate/butadiene/styrene copolymer, high impact polystyrene, acrylonitrile/acrylate copolymer, polystyrene, styrene/acrylonitrile copolymer, methylmethacrylate/styrene copolymer, an acrylonitrile/methyl methacrylate copolymer,

impact modified polyolefins, poly(vinyl chloride), impact modified poly(vinyl chloride), imidized acrylic polymer, acrylic polymer or impact modified acrylic polymer.

4. (Previously Presented) The article of Claim 3 wherein the polymeric matrix is comprised of polymethyl methacrylate.

5. (Previously Presented) The article of Claim 1 wherein a frosted appearance is achieved through the mismatch of the refractive indices of the polymeric particles and polymeric matrix by greater than 0.02.

6. (Previously Presented) The article of Claim 1 comprised of

- a) 20 - 90% by weight, polymethyl methacrylate or alkyl methacrylate/alkyl acrylate copolymer matrix;
- b) 0 - 50% by weight, modifiers; and
- c) 5 - 60% by weight, highly crosslinked spherical polymeric particles comprised of about 15 – 35% by weight, styrene; 65 – 85% by weight, alkyl methacrylate, or alkyl acrylate or a combination thereof; and 0.1 - 2.5% by weight crosslinking agent.

7-9. (cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The article of Claim 1 wherein the crosslinking agent is ethylene glycol dimethacrylate, divinylbenzene or allyl methacrylate.

11. (Previously Presented) The article of Claim 10 wherein the crosslinking agent is divinylbenzene.

12 and 13. (cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The resin of Claim 10 wherein the crosslinking agent is allylmethacrylate.

15. (Previously Presented) The resin of Claim 10 wherein the polymeric particles contain a colorant.

16. (Previously Presented) A resin comprised of:

- a) 60 - 85% by weight, matrix comprised of polymethyl methacrylate; and
- b) 15 - 40% by weight, highly crosslinked spherical polymeric particles comprised of:

15 - 35% by weight, styrene

65 - 85% by weight, methyl methacrylate

0.5-1.5% by weight, allyl methacrylate;

wherein the polymeric particles have a mean particle size of 35 - 70 micrometers, and a particle size distribution of between 15-110 micrometers, and wherein if the resin is extruded into a 0.125 inch thick sheet, the sheet has a Haze number as determined by ASTM D103 of at least 90%, an opacity as determined by ASTM D20805-80 would be at least 10%, a minimum surface roughness of 0.5 micrometers to 30 micrometers as measured using ASTM methods B46.11 B361.2 and Y14.36 and a Total White Light Transmission of greater than 77.1% for the clear form measured by a Hunterlab colorimeter-D25 model using ASTM E1331 and ASTM E1163.

17. (Previously Presented) A resin comprised of:

- a) 20 - 90% by weight, matrix comprised of polymethyl methacrylate or alkyl methacrylate/alkyl acrylate copolymer;
- b) 0 - 50% by weight, modifiers; and
- c) 5 - 40% by weight, highly crosslinked spherical polymeric particles comprised of about 15 to 35% by weight, styrene, 65-85% by weight, alkyl methacrylate, alkyl acrylate, or a mixture thereof and crosslinking agent wherein the polymeric particles have a mean particle size of 35 -70 micrometers, and a particle size distribution of between 15-110 micrometers, and wherein if the resin is extruded into a 0.125 inch thick sheet, the sheet has a Haze number as determined by ASTM D103 of at

least 90%, an opacity as determined by ASTM D20805-80 would be at least 10%, a minimum surface roughness of 0.5 micrometers to 30 micrometers as measured using ASTM methods B46.11 B361.2 and Y14.36 and a Total White Light Transmission of greater than 77.1% for the clear form measured by a Hunterlab colorimeter_D25 model using ASTM E1331 and ASTM E1163.